

Read Mark 10:17-23

17 As Jesus was starting out on his way to Jerusalem, a man came running up to him, knelt down, and asked, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

18 “Why do you call me good?” Jesus asked. “Only God is truly good.

19 But to answer your question, you know the commandments: ‘You must not murder. You must not commit adultery. You must not steal. You must not testify falsely. You must not cheat anyone. Honor your father and mother.’ ”

20 “Teacher,” the man replied, “I’ve obeyed all these commandments since I was young.”

21 Looking at the man, Jesus felt genuine love for him. “There is still one thing you haven’t done,” he told him. “Go and sell all your possessions and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

22 At this the man’s face fell, and he went away sad, for he had many possessions.

23 Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it is for the rich to enter the Kingdom of God!”

What did the rich young man ask Jesus (v. 17)? What did he have to do to get to heaven?

Notice that he asked Jesus what he had to DO. What does that tell you about the young man’s thinking about how to get into heaven? He thought he had to earn his way into heaven. He thought he had to be good enough to get to heaven and that’s impossible.

What do we have to do in order to get to heaven? John 6:28 Jesus Himself answers that question. Look it up and read it.

What does Jesus tell him to do (v. 19)? Obey the first 6 commandments perfectly.

What did the rich young man say (v. 20)? He has obeyed them perfectly ever since he was a young boy.
How did Jesus feel about the rich young man (v. 21)? Jesus loved him – even though He knew the young man was going to reject Him.

What did Jesus tell him to do (v. 21)? Sell everything you have and give it to the poor people and you will get even better treasures in heaven. Then come with me.

How did the man respond to what Jesus told him to do (v. 22)? He went away sad because he was rich and he didn’t want to sell his earthly treasures. He would be poor then. He loved his things. They were like an idol to him.

Do you have any things that might become an idol to you? That you wouldn’t give up to follow Jesus?

What was the lesson that Jesus told His disciples (v. 23)? It’s very hard for a rich person to get to heaven because they love their money more than they love Jesus.